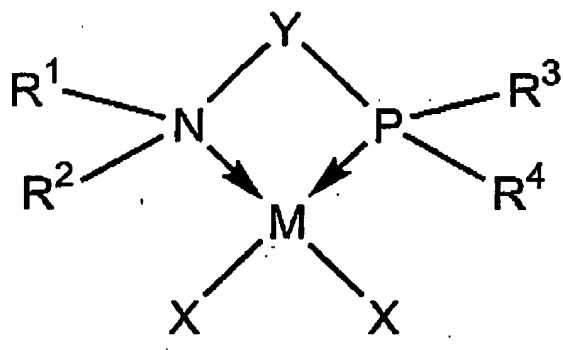


**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the abstract as follows:

As series of novel late transition metal catalysts for olefin oligomerization have been invented. The catalyst system includes a Group 8, 9 or 10 transition metal and an activator. The catalysts demonstrate high activity and selectivity for linear  $\alpha$ -olefins. Preferably this invention relates to a catalyst system comprising the reaction product of:  
(a) an activator selected from the group consisting of alumoxane, aluminum alkyl, alkyl aluminum halide, alkylaluminum alkoxide, discrete ionic activator, and Lewis acid; and  
(b) a catalyst precursor wherein the catalyst precursor has the following formula:



wherein (i) M is a Group-8, -9, or -10 transition metal; (ii) N is nitrogen;  
(iii) P is phosphorus; (iv) R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>4</sup> are independently hydrocarbyl radicals; (v) Y  
is a hydrocarbyl bridge comprising a backbone wherein the backbone comprises a chain  
that is four or more carbon atoms long; (vi) X are independently abstractable ligands.